In the lead-up to World Health Day on 7 April, which this year will focus on depression, WHO is releasing new global health estimates on depression.

Depression is an illness that affects people of all ages, from all walks of life, in all countries. It ranks as the largest single contributor to global disability. The number of people living with depression is increasing, with an increase of 18% between 2005 and 2015. Low levels of recognition and access to care for depression and anxiety lead to an estimated global economic loss of more than a trillion US dollars every year. Stigma associated with depression remains high.

The document "Depression and other common mental disorders. Global health estimates" provides details of prevalence of depression and anxiety, and health loss as a result of these disorders, at both global and regional levels and by sex and age. Country data are included in an Appendix.

Link to report: http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/254610/1/WHO-MSD-MER-2017.2-eng.pdf

WHO's "*Depression Let's Talk*" campaign

WHO launched a 1-year campaign, *Depression: let's talk*, on World Mental Health Day 2016. The overall goal of the campaign is that more people with depression, in all countries, seek and get help. World Health Day will be a high point in the campaign.

- Depression: let's talk campaign: www.who.int/depression/en , www.who.int/depression/fr , www.who.int/depression/es , www.who.int/depression/ar , www.who.int/depression/ru , www.who.int/depression/zh

- Resources for background research atÂ http://www.who.int/campaigns/world-health-day/2017/resources/en/ (click on tabs at top right of site for other languages)